

EVERY ATTACK
WAS REPULSED
BY GERMANS

French Made Many Efforts
to Recover Trenches Lost
East of Neuville but Were
Driven Back After Hand-
to-Hand Fighting

GERMAN HEADQUARTERS
MAKES REPORT

Italy Is Said to Be Considerably Concerned Over
Austria's Advance Southward on Adriatic Coast,
Seaport in Albania Being
Captured

Berlin, via London, Jan. 26.—A great number of counter-attacks were made by the French yesterday to recapture the trenches taken by the Germans east of Neuville, but they were repulsed each time after hand-to-hand fighting, says a statement issued to-day by the German army headquarters staff.

The position of the British government on two matters of prime importance in the conduct of the war is to be determined as the result of proceedings under way to-day. The attitude of labor toward compulsory military service will be decided at a conference in Bristol, and the debate on the question of the blockade of Germany is before the House of Commons.

The British conference is the most important of this kind ever held in England, representing more than 2,000,000 trade union members. The compulsory military service bill, having passed the Commons and encountered little opposition in the House of Lords, the outcome of the long campaign on this issue will depend largely on the attitude of organized labor. There are unofficial intimations that the British government has decided against a formal blockade of Germany.

The Austrian drive down the eastern coast of the Adriatic having passed beyond the Montenegrin border is now said to have resulted in the capture of the Albanian seaport of San Giovanni di Medua. Rome advises that the Italian government is concerned at the extension of Austrian influence southward along the Adriatic but there are no indications that further measures to oppose the Teutonic forces are under way. It is said that no alarm is felt in Rome for Avlona, which has been occupied by Italian troops or for Durazzo, which is in the hands of the Essad Pasha, provisional president of Albania, who has cast his lot with the entente allies.

3,000 BRITISH DEAD
LEFT ON FIELD

According to Turkish Report of Engagement on January 21 When British Attacked Turkish Positions.

Berlin, Jan. 26, by wireless to Sayville, N. J.—The British force going to the relief of the troops surrounded by Turks at Kut-el-Amara attacked the Turkish positions near Monari on Jan. 21, but were repulsed after an engagement lasting six hours, according to an official report issued by the Turkish headquarters staff. The British, the announcement says, left about 3,000 dead on the field.

The text of the Turkish headquarters report follows:
"Iraq front: Engagements continue at the Kut-el-Amara position. British forces coming from Mam. All Gherbi attacked on Jan. 21 the Turkish position near Monari, about 45 kilometers (21 miles) east of Kut-el-Amara, and on both sides of the Tigris river.
"The engagement lasted six hours. All the British attacks were repulsed by counter attacks. The British were repulsed several kilometers to the westward.
"On the battlefield, the British left about 3,000 dead. The Turkish losses were comparatively slight.
"Gen. Aylmer (commander of the British force) asked and obtained one day's truce in order to bury the dead.
"British soldiers taken prisoners stated that the British column also had lost 3,000 men in dead and wounded in the preceding engagement near Sheikh Said.
"The Turks attacked another British detachment advancing to the west of Korna from Munteik, which caused the British to retreat. The British left 100 dead."

BRITAIN JUSTIFIES
MAIL MEDDLING

By Citing Evidence That Germans Have Been Abusing Privileges of First-Class Mail.

London, Jan. 26.—The foreign office handed the American embassy to-day an interim reply to the American protest against the detention of mails. The note says a formal answer to the representations of the United States will be made as soon as the French government signifies its approval of the attitude of Great Britain. It is understood the formal reply will defend the attitude of the British authorities by citing evidence that the Germans have been abusing the privileges of first-class mails.

STEAMER NORSEMAN
ONLY BEACHED

No Lives Were Lost, According to Report Received by Lloyd's in London.

London, Jan. 26.—Lloyd's report says the steamship Norseman, reported yesterday as sunk, has been beached and no lives were lost.

The Norseman is owned by the Dominion company and, according to agents of the International Mercantile company, has been under charter to the British admiralty since Dec. 5.

AUSTRIA HARRIES
UNITED STATES

Wants to Know What We are Going to Do About Italian Steamship Which Arrived at New York with Two Guns Mounted.

Washington, D. C., Jan. 26.—Baron Erich Zviedinek, charge of the Austro-Hungarian embassy, to-day asked the state department what the United States intended to do in the case of the Italian steamship Verona which arrived at New York several days ago with two guns mounted at her stern.

SAFE-BLOWERS IN MAINE.

Stole \$400 Government Property in Scarborough Postoffice.

Scarborough, Me., Jan. 26.—The postoffice and general store of George W. Knight at Dunstons corner in this town was entered about 2 yesterday morning by burglars, who stole about \$400 worth of government property and goods from the store, but overlooked \$75 in cash. The explosion when the safe was blown open was heard at the house of John C. Johnson, who aroused Mr. Knight and his clerks. Mr. Knight, Mr. Johnson, Raymond Leary and Weston Snow, armed with guns, scoured the roads in the vicinity, but no trace of the two men who were seen to leave the store could be found.

The burglars used nitroglycerin, and it is believed, must have been to some degree familiar with the place. That they left finger prints on the window and elsewhere leads the officers to believe they could not have been experts.

MONTPELIER

Body of Benjamin J. Magoon Taken to Ellensburg Center, N. Y.

The remains of Benjamin J. Magoon, whose death occurred last Sunday morning, were taken last evening over the Central Vermont railroad to Ellensburg Center, N. Y., where the funeral is to be held Thursday at the Methodist church with burial in that town. A prayer service was held at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Alice Webb, 18 Harrison avenue, yesterday afternoon at 4 o'clock, with Rev. J. E. Taylor, pastor of the People's church, officiating. Those who accompanied the body to Ellensburg were Ernest Colburn of Manchester, N. H., a son, and Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Webb of this city.

Hon. John E. Weeks of Middlebury arrived in the city this morning for a brief business visit.

The state board of pharmacy will hold a regular meeting for the purpose of conducting examinations at the State House Wednesday of next week, Feb. 2.

In county court the following cases have been entered for the March term: Louise Brown vs. Wallace Bartlett, husband; John W. Gordon for the plaintiff; State vs. Lillian Robinson, perjury.

Sheriff Frank H. Tracy and Deputy Sheriff Henry C. Lawson left on the afternoon train for Burlington to attend the first annual meeting of the Vermont Sheriffs' association, the two days' session of which opens to-night at the New Sherwood hotel.

John McMahon, but recently released from Washington county jail after serving a long sentence for intoxication, went back to-day to stay until the first of May. He was arrested last evening by Officer John McDonald and pleaded guilty this morning before Judge Harvey to a third offense. He was fined \$15 and costs and given 30 days. Being unable to pay the fine he was committed for 90 days.

George Carpenter, inspector of weights and measures went to-day to Burlington to test the scales installed in the new union station.

In probate court John T. Averill of Barre City has been appointed administrator of the estate of Patrick E. McNulty. The will of John H. Tibbets, late of Cabot, has been presented for probate and the will of Jeannette Cunningham, late of Cabot, has been proven. Harry R. Robinson of Waterbury settled his account as administrator of the estate of George N. Greeley. Clarence H. Senter has been appointed administrator of the estate of John H. Senter. Mr. Senter left no will. Charles F. Smith of Barre has been appointed administrator of the estate of Sarah Lake, late of Barre City.

Routine business appears to be all that will claim the attention of the city council at the regular fortnightly meeting this evening unless something unforeseen occurs. The city's fiscal year does not end until next week, so that departmental reports have not yet been completed for consideration by the council.

Mrs. H. W. Dunton of Prospect street has been taken to Heaton hospital for treatment, being ill with the grip.

Mrs. James Kelleher and little son of North street went to-day to Burlington for a week's visit with relatives.

The Independents gained a lap on the leaders in the city bowling league last evening by taking all four points from the All-Stars, who are at the foot of the nine teams. The Independents rolled a total of 1,337, the best string being 474. Warren was high man with 308. On the school street alleys the Bakers obtained one point in their contest with the Eagles, now the league leaders.

F. S. Pease of the industrial accident board returned to-day to Burlington after a 10 days' stay in the city.

Charles H. Barton is detained at his home in this city by a severe cold.

ACCUSED MAN
TELLS STORY

Harlow Hatch Relates the Events Prior to Death of Sumner Brown

DESCRIBED TRIP
TO DANVILLE FARM

State Alleges That He Shot Brown on Return to St. Johnsbury

St. Johnsbury, Jan. 26.—Harlow Hatch, charged with manslaughter in connection with the killing of Sumner Brown in this place last July, took the stand in his own defense this forenoon when the case against him was reopened in Caledonia county court. Hatch's testimony, before the court adjourned at noon, was concerned with a story of an automobile trip which he took on the day of the alleged killing. In the car he went with others to the home of Charles Thompson in Danville and in Thompson's absence he drew a pitcher of beer in what was known as the apple room. The party then started for St. Johnsbury on the return trip home and Hatch had described the journey as it was made as far as the Joe's brook road, when the court took a recess. It is alleged by the state that the shooting occurred after Hatch returned from the motor trip.

STRICT ACCOUNT-
ABILITY TO BE
INSISTED UPON

New Hitch Develops in the Negotiations Between United States and Germany Over the Lusitania.

Washington, D. C., Jan. 26.—The United States is understood to have rejected, as being partly unsatisfactory, Germany's latest proposal in the Lusitania negotiations. Secretary Lansing with the approval of President Wilson, is said to have so informed Count Von Bernstorff, the German ambassador, during a conference late yesterday at the state department.

In many particulars, the suggested form of agreement designed to conclude the controversy, which was submitted through the ambassador, is acceptable. It was stated by excellent authority, however, that the United States insists upon holding the German government to "a strict accountability" for the loss of more than 100 American lives and desires that the Berlin government admit, in effect, that it is liable according to law, for the lives of neutrals lost in the commission of an act against a vessel of an enemy.

Both Secretary Lansing and Count Von Bernstorff have agreed that the subject of their conversation yesterday should be held confidential. They allowed it to become known that another conference would be held in the morning but beyond that declined to discuss the case. It was further explained that these negotiations, necessarily of an informal character, were not in the least binding. Secretary Lansing, in alluding to the publication of certain facts connected with the proposal which now is understood to have been rejected, declared during the day that the statements are "conjectures" and that the published description of the informal communication was "supposition unjustified by the facts."

It was indicated last night, that while Teutonic diplomatic circles were disappointed at the refusal of the United States to accept the proposal, a feeling of optimism regarding the outcome still prevailed.

Friendship First.

From sources usually well informed came the statement that Germany, in the proposals, had considered friendship with the United States to a greater extent than law in making such concessions as have been made. The administration was represented as taking the position that law also should be brought into consideration.

Germany from the beginning of its submarine operations in the North sea, has refused to accede to the American view point that laws makes her liable for the lives of neutrals lost as were those aboard the Lusitania. In her note of Aug. 19, last, regarding the sinking of the White Star liner Arabic, Germany, after expressing deep regret on account of the deaths of American citizens, made the following statement:

"The German government is unable, however, to acknowledge any obligation to grant indemnity in the matter, even if the commander should have been mistaken as to the aggressive intentions of the Arabic."

ANOTHER CONFERENCE TO-DAY.

Secretary Lansing and Ambassador Bernstorff Met.

Washington, D. C., Jan. 26.—Count Von Bernstorff had another conference to-day with Secretary Lansing over the Lusitania negotiations, but the result was not divulged.

It was made known in official quarters before the conference took place that the last German proposals were unsatisfactory and that the United States was pressing for the full disposal of the sinking of the liner with the loss of 110 American lives.

FORD COMMITTEE AT STOCKHOLM

And Will Remain Until Peace Negotiations Are Begun.

London, Jan. 26.—Reuters' Stockholm correspondent says that the working committee of the Ford peace expedition has arrived there and will remain until peace negotiations are officially begun.

HUGE MARBLE CONCERN.

Capitalized at \$6,000,000—It Will Take Over Independent Interests.

Rutland, Jan. 26.—At the annual meeting of the Green Mountain Marble company, held in this city yesterday it was announced that the project to consolidate practically all of the so-called independent marble interests of Vermont had assumed definite shape. The United Marble company, incorporated under the laws of Massachusetts, with \$6,000,000 capital, has been incorporated by P. R. Eaton of Fitchburg, Mass., M. J. Cashman of Boston and Abbott S. Pond of Boston. Mr. Eaton, who has been prominently identified with many big interests, lumber in addition to marble, will be president of the new company, and will devote his entire time to this enterprise.

The corporation immediately succeeds both the Green Mountain Marble company and the Columbian corporation, which companies cease to exist, and as far as the details can be arranged other companies will be consolidated under the general ownership and direction of the new company.

The financing of the new corporation has been affected by Mr. Pond, a former resident of Rutland, and in the interests of his banking firm, Hodgdon, Cashman & Co., of Boston. The financial resources of the new company will be made entirely ample to carry out the extensive project, the Boston firm being one of the most substantial in the country. This banking house in past years has handled many large industrial underwritings, being specialists in Massachusetts corporations and at present the largest house of their kind in New England.

WILL KEEP TO WORK
PENDING EFFORT
AT SETTLEMENT

United Mine Workers of America are Solidly in Favor of Plan According to Vote in Convention.

Indianapolis, Ind., Jan. 26.—The United Mine Workers of America in convention to-day decided not to suspend work after their contracts expired so long as negotiations for new agreements are pending. A rising vote, taken after a long debate, showed that 1,000 of the 1,300 delegates were in favor of continuing work as recommended by President John P. White.

HUSBAND TOOK SENTENCE.

Corilano Granai Pleaded Guilty to Keeping Liquor Illegally.

An entry of nolle prosequi was made in the case of State vs. M. Corilano Granai in city court yesterday and her husband, Corilano Granai, pleading guilty to a charge of keeping with intent to sell, was sentenced by Judge H. W. Scott to serve a maximum sentence of eight months in the house of correction at Rutland with a minimum of six months. He was taken to the county jail last night to await transfer to Rutland.

Mrs. Granai's arrest was the result of a raid made by the police on her premises at 27 Granite street Saturday night, when three barrels of beer and boxes of whiskey were seized. Upon representations made in court yesterday it developed that Granai was the keeper of a saloon which he intended to dispose of illicitly and that his wife sold only in his presence, a circumstance which pointed to the husband's guilt, under the law.

Grand Juror William Wishart, to whom the complaint against the respondent was made, conducted the prosecution and J. Ward Carver appeared for the Granai people. Dr. Joe W. Jackson, who has been doctoring the respondent, Corilano Granai, was asked to take the stand. He stated that Granai is ill of an incurable malady and when asked as to the man's present condition, he stated that the disease was progressive. In his opinion the respondent might expire within a few weeks, or he might live several months. He represented that the family is in improved financial circumstances and that the head of the house has been unable to do manual labor of any kind for several years. He was unable to walk to city hall, the authorities having found it necessary to procure a team to bring him before the judge.

COAL GAS NEARLY FATAL.

Two Occupants of Room at 73 South Main Street, Unconscious When Found.

Serious results from coal gas asphyxiation were narrowly averted at the home of Mr. and Mrs. John F. Tassie of 73 South Main street this morning, when Mr. and Mrs. Tassie were aroused at about 6 o'clock by the sound of someone falling in an adjoining room. Investigation disclosed the two occupants of the room, Mrs. J. F. Emerson, a sister of Mrs. Tassie, and William, their six-year-old son, unconscious and the room filled with the odor of gas.

When the two were restored to consciousness it was learned that Mrs. Emerson was troubled at several times during the night by a feeling of suffocation and made an ineffectual attempt to open wider the already partly open window, but could not raise it. She had been troubled for the past few days with an attack of the grippe, however, and thought this to be the cause of her weakness. Shortly before 6 o'clock she aroused the husband and he started for the closet in search of stimulants. He had taken but a few steps, however, when he was overcome and fell to the floor. Mrs. Emerson then attempted to go to his assistance but was likewise affected. When discovered, the boy had crawled into the closet. Both victims are reported to be rapidly recovering from their experience, and no serious results are anticipated. Other occupants of the house are complaining of headaches to-day.

JAPANESE ULTIMATUM.

To China Has Been Delivered, an English Paper Hears.

London, Jan. 26.—The Japanese government has delivered to the Chinese minister in Tokyo for transmission to his government a note embodying the seven demands which were included in the Japanese program last spring, the Manchester Guardian learns from far eastern sources.

INJURY IN GAME
PROVED FATAL

James S. Milne, Jr., a Barre Young Man, Died in Boston

OF CONCUSSION
OF THE BRAIN

He Was Attending Boston University—The Body Comes To-morrow

A telegram received by City Clerk James Mackay late yesterday afternoon brought tidings of the death in Boston of James S. Milne, Jr., which occurred around 4:30 o'clock. The young man's demise was due to concussion of the brain which developed from an injury to the left side of his head which he received while playing basketball Saturday with a Boston university team in its game with a team from Tufts college. With him in the hour of death were his parents, Mr. and Mrs. James S. Milne of 53 Liberty street, and his brother, Walter S. Milne, who is a clerk in the employ of the Barre & Chelsea Railroad company.

The remains will be brought to Barre over the Montpelier & Wells River railroad to-morrow morning at 7:55 o'clock. They will be removed to the Milne home, where it is expected, the funeral services will be held Friday afternoon, with interment in Hope cemetery.

According to advices received by Mr. and Mrs. Milne Sunday evening, their son received injuries in a basketball game Saturday afternoon. In the telegram that brought them their first intimation of the young man's condition, it was stated that he had been unconscious since Saturday evening. Later, it transpired that Mr. Milne was thrown against an upright on the basketball floor early in the contest. He retired from the game, but remained in the hall and watched the contest through to the finish. A friend accompanied him to his home in Brookline and soon afterward he complained of feeling ill. Soon thereafter he sank into a coma and did not regain consciousness but for a single instant, when it is thought that he recognized those at his bedside. Specialists who listened to his bedside decided that concussion of the brain had developed from the injury.

Upon being notified of the gravity of Mr. Milne's condition, his mother and his brother left the city Sunday evening for Boston, to be followed the next evening by Mr. Milne, the young man's father, who reached Boston yesterday morning. From the outset it was seen that the youth's chances for recovery were very slight.

The deceased was born in Barre June 29, 1890, and until his departure for Boston two years ago he had always lived in Barre. He attended the graded schools and was graduated in 1907 from Spaulding high school, where for four years he manifested a lively interest in all branches of sport. For some time he was employed as a clerk in the old National bank of Barre and later he accepted a clerical position in the Montpelier office of the American Fidelity company. From the capital he went to Boston, where he held a position in the office of the Massachusetts Bonding company until the summer of 1913. In September he returned to Boston, after having been employed by Adie & Milne in this city, and began the pursuit of a course in accounting in the school of administration at Boston university. A two weeks' sojourn in the Christmas holidays at his home here was the occasion of his last visit to Barre.

Mr. Milne was a young man whose estimable qualities won him friends wherever he went. His genial disposition was wholly sincere and unvarying. Ambitious to succeed in a marked degree, the future for him was full of promise, and his untimely passing has brought genuine sorrow to many. He was a member of the First Presbyterian church and in his boyhood as well as in after years he was closely identified with activities among the younger people of that denomination. For several years he had been a member of the Vincitia club and retained his affiliation with the club even after his removal to Boston. Mr. Milne also belonged to Clan Gordon, No. 12, O. S. C.

Death Due to Hemorrhage.

Boston, Jan. 26.—James S. Milne, aged 25, son of James Milne of Barre, Vt., a second-year student at Boston university, died late yesterday afternoon at the home of Mrs. Georgina Howe, 31 Linden place, Brookline, where he roomed. Howe heard groans in Milne's room and found the young man verging upon unconsciousness. He died without regaining consciousness.

His parents will take the body to Barre to-day.

Dr. Powers notified Medical Examiner Harry M. Cutts of Brookline, who reported to the police that Milne's injury clearly was accidental. Death was due to a hemorrhage.

SNOW CONQUERED.

And Trains Are Being Moved On All Lines in West Except One.

Seattle, Wash., Jan. 26.—The northern transcontinental railroads have won their fight with the snow in the mountains and to-day overhead trains moved on all the lines except the Canadian Northern, which expected to clear its line before night.

WAS PROMINENT
BUSINESS MAN

Arthur S. Martin Died Last Night After Brief Illness with Pneumonia.—He Was Born in Northfield 46 Years Ago.

Arthur S. Martin, one of the most prominent of the younger business men of Barre, died at his home, 43 Park street, late last night after an illness of one week with grip and pneumonia. He was taken ill with a cold a week ago yesterday, but three days later he was able to be about the house and seemed to be on the road to recovery until Sunday when pneumonia developed and his condition became very serious. A council of physicians was held, at which it was decided that the chance of recovery was largely dependent upon the strength of the heart. Although he passed a very bad day yesterday it was not thought that his condition was critical till evening, when there was a sudden turn for the worse. It is probable that heart failure was the immediate cause of death.

Arthur Stevens Martin was born in Northfield Aug. 28, 1869, the son of Newton and Martha (Hackett) Martin. He spent his early life in that town and came with his parents to Barre when he was about 16 years of age, the family occupying the Martin home farm on the west hill. The young man attended Green Mountain seminary at Waterbury Center and after graduating there entered Goddard seminary, from which he was graduated in 1891, being later chosen a trustee of the institution.

For a score of years he resided in this city, marrying, on Oct. 24, 1900, Miss Cora E. Mann. He engaged in the wood business and eventually became a holder of considerable real estate. Mr. Martin was much interested in the progress of the city and was one of its most loyal citizens, and he was recognized as a man of strict integrity. He recently was elected a director of the Granite Savings Bank & Trust company. He belonged to the Knights of Pythias lodge and also to Vincitia club. He was an adherent of the First Universalist church.

The surviving relatives are his wife and three children, Newton A., aged 11 years, Constance M., aged 4, and Corinne A., aged 3; his mother, Mrs. Martha Perrin of Montpelier, and a sister, Mrs. Charles Parker of Montpelier. Mrs. Alma H. Perry of Barre is a aunt.

The funeral arrangements include a prayer service at the house Friday afternoon at 1 o'clock and the funeral service at the Universalist church at 1:30 o'clock. Rev. J. B. Reardon officiating, assisted by Rev. J. W. Barnett. Interment will be in Elmwood cemetery.

MONUMENT DEALERS
OF TWO STATES HERE

Second Annual Convention of Twin-State Association Met in Barre To-day and Will Continue Through To-morrow.

Representative retail monument dealers of Vermont and New Hampshire gathered here to-day for their second annual gathering, the convention being the second assembly of its kind since the twin-state association was organized in White River Junction in 1914. Headquarters for the monument men have been reserved at Hotel Barre and there the various committees met this morning prior to the first open session in the hall adjacent to the offices of the Barre Granite Manufacturers' association in the C. W. Averill building. Retailers, manufacturers and quarrymen mingled in an open forum gathering from 10 o'clock until noon. Mayor Langley gave an address of welcome and there were informal speeches following.

Not until mid-afternoon did the retailers meet together in closed session, and then they assembled for the purpose of electing officers and transacting business that has accumulated since the last meeting. Interest centers about the entertainment features provided by the Granite Manufacturers' association for this evening and to-morrow.

No efforts have been spared to make the visitors feel at home and thus far only favorable comments concerning the reception accorded the dealers have been heard. In Clan Gordon hall this evening at 7 o'clock, the manufacturers will be the hosts at an Italian banquet, served a la Milanese with polenta and other favorite peninsula dishes on the menu. Speechmaking is taboos, as the manufacturers are determined that their guests shall have their own kind of a good time. Dancing will follow the banquet.

Again to-morrow the dealers will be in the hands of their friends. A committee composed of Secretary H. P. Hinman of the manufacturers' association, Alexander A. Milne, W. P. Scott and Armando Comelli is in charge of the entertainment arrangements for this evening as well as to-morrow. In the morning automobiles will be ready to transport the visitors to the south end, where the cutting plant of Barclay brothers is to be open for inspection. In the afternoon at 1:30 o'clock there will be a motor trip to the quarries on Millstone hill. At the deposits of Boutwell, Milne & Varnum refreshments are to be served and the journey to Barre will be resumed in the late afternoon. If unpropitious weather prevails, the idea of giving the dealers an auto ride to the quarries will be abandoned and other means of transportation will be provided.

Thomas J. Adams of Woodstock is president of the Vermont and New Hampshire association. F. M. Ober of Morrisville is the secretary and the treasurer is J. E. McNichol of White River Junction.

FORMAL MURDER CHARGE

But Accused Man May Not Survive His Self-Inflicted Wound.

Quincy, Mass., Jan. 26.—The police have received a warrant charging Frank Colletti with the murder of his wife, Josephine Colletti, whom he shot and instantly killed on Hayden street, West Quincy, last Thursday night.

Colletti is still at the Quincy City hospital with a bullet in his head. The physicians still think he will have a hard time to pull through.

SINKING FUND
IS \$75,864.77;
ASSETS GROW

In Addition to Sinking Fund Is Balance in Water Department After Paying All Expenses, Making Total Sinking Fund Nearly \$80,000

TAX RATE OF \$2.30
IS RECOMMENDED

Finance Committee Also Favors Beginning of Permanent Road Work on South Main Street, the Cost to Cover a Period of Seven Years—Other Annual Reports Submitted

Recommendatory measures of a very positive character, involving the improvement of South Main street to the extent of laying new pavement from the present stone roadway terminus to the base of Jockey Hollow hill; the erection of a new bridge to replace the ancient wooden structure over Jail branch in the south end, and the lowering of the grade immediately south of the bridge, were incorporated in the annual report of the aldermanic finance committee, which was received at the regular meeting of the board of aldermen last evening and ordered printed in the city year book. The committee further recommends in its 1915 report that the sum of \$35,000 be expended on the foregoing improvements, that \$5,000 be appropriated this year and that the cost be extended over a period of seven years. Cognizance is taken of the fact that there is a very pressing need for the improvements and a tax rate of \$2.30 is advocated for this reason.

The finance committee's report, printed below, will be found to be a concise statement of what the city council believes should be achieved in 1916. It serves to clarify the atmosphere as to where the committee and other members of the council stand on the question of street improvement and if the measures advocated are carried out, much of the dissatisfaction felt over the condition of South Main street and the long-time agitation for a new bridge in the south end will be eliminated. It is recommended that work on all three projects be started early in the season. Last evening's session saw the aldermen working on the flag end of a list of 1915 reports, a majority of which were approved at the regular meeting last week.

Among the annual reports adopted last evening were the yearly statement of Fire Chief C. B. Gladding, a digest of which appeared in yesterday's Times, the report of Overseer W. J. Clapp, the annual report of the park commission, the yearly statement of the city treasurer and the annual report of the charity committee.

The Finance Committee's Report.

Below are given the most salient excerpts of the finance committee's statement:

"The following estimate of expenditures for the year 1916 are based on a tax rate of \$2.30.

"The increasing and incessant demand for improvement in conditions for travel has induced us to make rather liberal estimates this year for the street department. For maintenance we have appropriated \$10,000.00; for macadam road \$2,300.00; and for a permanent street on South Main street \$5,000.00; we believe the time is ripe for carrying out the oft-repeated but never acted on recommendations of our predecessors, that this work be done; it is estimated that the cost of improving this street and constructing a new bridge over Jail branch would amount, approximately, to \$35,000.00. The cost of this improvement, in our judgment, should be spread over a term of seven years, and we have made provision in our estimate for the payment of the first installment of the total cost.

"We would also recommend that all permanent work contemplated for 1916 be started early in the season and completed as soon as possible, as we believe that conditions are more favorable then, and that better results can be secured at less cost.

"Liberal provision has been made for all other work in the street, sewer, fire, police, water, health and other departments, which will enable them to maintain their present high standard of efficiency and enlarge the scope of it in several.

"The sinking fund has been increased during the past year to \$75,864.77, and with the water department surplus added will amount to fully \$80,000.00; a continuation of the same policy in regard to the sinking fund for the next few years that has been followed in the past, will enable the city to cancel from this fund the \$15,000.00 refunding bonds, which mature this year and the \$127,500.00 city and water bonds maturing in 1919; and still leave a small balance in the fund. This will bring us immediate relief from the heavy annual interest charges, with which we are now burdened, and will

(Continued on fourth page.)